



COLORADO
Department of Public
Health & Environment

August 5, 2020

Eva J. Henry, Commissioner
Charles Tedesco, Commissioner
Emma Pinter, Commissioner
Steve O-Dorisio, Commissioner
Mary Hodge, Commissioner
Adams County Board of County Commissioners
4430 S. Adams County Parkway
Brighton, CO 80601

John Douglas, Jr., Director
Tri-County Public Health Agency

RE: Adams County Variance Request from portions of **Public Health Order 20-28**

Dear Commissioners and Director Douglas:

Thank you for your application to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) of a variance request to portions of the **Public Health Order 20-28 Safer at Home**. I have had an opportunity to review your request for a variance for arcades, and have determined that the request will not be approved, as described below.

As stated in Appendix G to PHO 20-28, when reviewing a variance request, we evaluate the current prevalence of COVID-19 in the jurisdiction, including whether cases are increasing, stable, or decreasing. In reviewing Adams County's current status with respect to the COVID-19 pandemic, we note that the county has had 6,084 cases to date, with 952 of those cases (excluding cases among residents of facilities experiencing outbreaks) occurring in the last two weeks, which is a two week incidence of 186 per 100,000 (very high level) - see [here](#) for more information. Additionally, Adams County has implemented a mitigation plan, as required by the June 26, 2020 variance approval.

Your variance application seeks the opening of arcades in Adams County at 50%, not to exceed 100 people as set by the guidance for indoor events. As Adams County is currently at the very high level and implementing a mitigation plan with respect to the existing variance, it would not be appropriate to approve a variance at this time. Additionally, the **Public Health Order 20-28 Safer at Home**, as amended, expressly prohibits the opening of arcades, and we are not authorizing any jurisdiction to open arcades under this Order.

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I appreciate your thoughtful approach to these challenging issues and wish you all the best in your continuing efforts to ensure that Adams County residents are safe and healthy as we deal with this global pandemic. Adams County is a valued partner, and we are available to work with you on these matters. Please give me a call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jill Hunsaker Ryan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jill Hunsaker Ryan, MPH
Executive Director